

## DAVID P. SANDERS, Partner

*David P. Sanders is a member of the Firm's Complex Commercial Litigation Practice and co-chair of the Media and First Amendment Practice. He also serves as Associate General Counsel of Jenner & Block. He has represented numerous media clients, providing litigation and counseling services on a wide variety of media law issues such as libel, privacy, newsgathering and more. He also has extensive experience litigating business disputes in trial and appellate courts across the country, including defending consumer class actions.*

Mr. Sanders is AV Peer Review Rated, Martindale-Hubbell's highest peer recognition for ethical standards and legal ability. *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* has identified him as a top media lawyer every year since 2003 based on client reviews, including one calling him "one of the pre-eminent lawyers in the state." In addition, Mr. Sanders has been selected annually by his peers for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America, First Amendment law category. He also has been selected repeatedly as an Illinois Super Lawyer in business litigation and First Amendment/media law.

Mr. Sanders has served as an adjunct professor of trial advocacy at the Northwestern University School of Law and is a frequent lecturer on topics related to his practice area.

### Business Litigation

Mr. Sanders' business litigation has covered a wide range of substantive fields, including complex breach of contract, business torts, the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, bankruptcy-related claims, and class action defense. His clients have included Northwest Airlines Inc., for which he successfully tried a \$107 million claim brought by Midway Airlines Inc.; Trammell Crow Company; Live Nation; Charter One Bank, N.A.; CCH, Inc.; Emmis Communications Corporation; Air Wisconsin Corporation; Monster Cable Products, Inc.; Post Newsweek Cable, and many other major corporations. He has achieved dismissals of several large class action claims under federal banking and aviation laws, as well as dismissals of other large class actions on state law grounds. He has negotiated extremely favorable settlements of high-exposure class actions for his clients.

### Media Law

Mr. Sanders provides litigation and counseling services to media clients on a wide range of media and First Amendment law issues. Mr. Sanders has served as regular outside counsel to several media clients, including a national broadcast network, Crain Communications Inc., magazine publishers, and others. He has also represented numerous other national publishers, broadcasters, and other companies in the news and entertainment businesses, including NBCUniversal, Associated Press, The New York Times Company, The Washington Post Company, Univision Communications, Inc., Emmis Communications, Forbes, and many others.

Mr. Sanders has successfully defended media clients in dozens of libel and privacy cases. He successfully represented, through an appeal to the United



## DAVID P. SANDERS Partner

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### PRACTICE GROUPS

Complex Commercial Litigation

Litigation

Media and First Amendment

### EDUCATION

Georgetown University Law Center, J.D.,  
1974; Editor, *American Criminal Law Review*,  
1973-1974

University of Wisconsin - Madison, B.A.,  
1971; with Distinction, Phi Kappa Phi

### ADMISSIONS

Illinois, 1974

### COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit,  
1974

U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit, 1985

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois  
(Trial Bar), 1974

States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, ABC and Hearst Communications in a high-profile libel action arising out of their news reports on the possible ties between a charitable organization and terrorism. He successfully defended Forbes, again through the appellate process, in a libel and false light invasion of privacy case brought by a prominent business executive. His many other cases have included successfully defending a libel and invasion of privacy case challenging a national television network's hidden camera investigative news report; defending a series of libel lawsuits arising out of an award-winning, television network investigative news report on an arson for profit conspiracy; the trial of a libel claim brought by the chief executive officer of a corporation against a business newspaper; defending several talk radio libel cases; appealing a \$9.2 million libel judgment – then the largest damage award in the history of American libel law – against the *Alton Telegraph*; and defending numerous libel actions against a local television station.

Mr. Sanders regularly handles other types of litigated matters involving First Amendment and press issues for his media clients. He also counsels media and non-media clients on a broad range of problems involving defamation, privacy, newsgathering, subpoenas, Freedom of Information Act, copyright, advertising, promotion, media insurance and related business and legal issues. He has extensive experience in pre-publication review of news articles, broadcasts and books.

## Awards

- *Best Lawyers in America* - 1995-2020  
Litigation-First Amendment
- *Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers*  
Media & Entertainment - 2003
- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*  
Media & Entertainment: Litigation (Illinois) 2003-2019
- *Illinois Super Lawyer*  
First Amendment/Media - 2005, 2010-2013  
Business Litigation - 2006-2009  
Media and Advertising - 2014-2019
- Leading Lawyers Network  
Advertising & Media Law - 2004-2019  
Civil Rights/Constitutional Law - 2004-2019  
Commercial Litigation - 2004-2019
- *Legal 500*  
Litigation: First Amendment Litigation and Counseling - 2009  
Media, Technology, and Telecoms - 2007-2009

## Educational

- Northwestern University School of Law  
Adjunct Professor, Trial Advocacy, 1981-1990

## Service To The Bar

- Chicago Council of Lawyers  
Chairman, Federal Judicial Evaluations Committee, 1989-2000
- Media Law Resource Center - Defense Counsel Section  
Co-Chairman, Trial Techniques Committee, 2000-2004

## **Publications**

- Co-Author, Illinois chapter of Media Law Resource Center *50-State Survey on Media Privacy and Related Torts*, 1995-2018
- "To Respond or Not To Respond," *Corporate Confidentiality and Disclosure*, Issue 3, 1988
- "Libel: How to Guard Against It," 3 *Publishing Trade*, No. 1, January/February 1984

## **Speaking Engagements**

- "Navigating Around New Legal Obstacles," Inland Press Foundation 2007 Editorial Management Workshop, Chicago, IL, May 23, 2007